



News Release

Pat Quinn, Governor

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May Unemployment Rate Falls to 9.1 Percent

Employers Add 11,800 Private Sector Jobs in May

CHICAGO – The unemployment rate fell to 9.1 percent in May and Illinois businesses added 11,800 private sector jobs, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

The seasonally adjusted data nets May's job growth at 5,600 when subtracting temporary job declines as schools go on summer break. Illinois added 54,900 private sector positions compared to last year.

"The encouraging news of private sector job growth shows Illinois businesses are warming to the idea of adding new positions. Growth in construction is particularly encouraging following a cold and wet spring," IDES Director Jay Rowell said. "This year also illustrates the volatile nature of the unemployment rate. Up in January and February, unchanged in March, and then down again in April and May. This trend likely will continue as national and global events push consumer confidence."

Illinois has added +227,600 private sector jobs since January 2010 when job growth returned following nearly two years of consecutive monthly declines. Leading growth sectors are Professional and Business Services (+98,800); Education and Health Services (+58,500); and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+34,700). Government has lost the most jobs since January 2010, down -30,600.

In May 2013, the number of unemployed fell -11,600 (-1.9 percent) to 599,200. Total unemployed has fallen -153,000 (-20.3 percent) since early 2010 when the state unemployment rate peaked at 11.3 percent for the months of January and February.

The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and seeking employment. A person who exhausts benefits, or is ineligible, still will be reflected in the unemployment rate if they actively seek work.

Historically, the national unemployment rate is lower than the state rate. The state rate has been lower than the national rate only six times since January 2000. This includes times of economic growth and recession.

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Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

	May 2013	April 2013	May 2012	3-Month Moving Avg.
Illinois	9.1%	9.3%	8.9%*	9.3%
U.S.	7.6%	7.5%	8.2%*	7.6%
* Revised				

Illinois Seasonally Adjusted Non-farm Jobs – by Major Industry

Industry Title	May 2013*	April 2013**	May 2012**	Over the Month Change	Over the Year Change	3-Month Moving Avg.	Change from Previous 3-Month Mov. Avg.
Total Nonfarm	5,781,200	5,775,600	5,732,100	5,600	49,100	5,778,100	-4,300
Mining	10,300	10,400	10,300	-100	0	10,300	0
Construction	181,500	177,600	187,700	3,900	-6,200	183,400	-2,400
Manufacturing	580,300	582,300	582,800	-2,000	-2,500	583,200	100
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,155,600	1,159,100	1,151,400	-3,500	4,200	1,162,000	-2,200
Information	100,300	99,200	100,700	1,100	-400	99,500	-200
Financial Activities	372,100	372,800	365,500	-700	6,600	371,700	600
Professional and Business Services	879,700	871,500	859,300	8,200	20,400	872,400	900
Educational and Health Services	880,000	881,300	859,400	-1,300	20,600	879,100	2,000
Leisure and Hospitality	540,500	535,700	534,000	4,800	6,500	537,100	-1,100
Other Services	255,200	253,800	249,500	1,400	5,700	252,800	600
Government	825,700	831,900	831,500	-6,200	-5,800	830,800	600
				* Preliminary	** Revised		

Notes:

- Illinois monthly labor force, unemployed and unemployment rates for years 2008-2012 have been revised as required by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. In February of each year, monthly labor force data for all states are revised to reflect updated sum-of-states controls, Census population controls, seasonal factors, non-farm jobs and unemployment insurance claims inputs. Data were also smoothed to eliminate large monthly changes as a result of volatility in the monthly household (CPS) survey. Comments and tables distributed in prior Illinois unemployment rate news release materials should be discarded because any analysis, including records, previously cited might no longer be valid.
- Seasonally adjusted employment data for subsectors within industries are not available. For not seasonally adjusted jobs data with greater industry detail, go to http://www.ides.illinois.gov/Custom/Library/Statistic/CES/1_NSA_CES_Illinois_MSAs_Jobs_2000_to_Current.XLS.
- "Other Services" includes a wide range of activities in three broad categories: Personal and laundry; repair and maintenance; and religious, grant making, civic and professional organizations.
- Monthly seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for Illinois and the Chicago-Naperville-Joliet Metropolitan Division are available at: <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=2509>.

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